

Auto-consolidation Workgroup Proposal

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Workgroup Goal

To develop a process to identify tumor related data fields that could potentially be auto-consolidated. To create and test auto-consolidation guidelines and rules for each tumor related data field.

Define consolidation and automation of consolidation

Consolidation is the process of selecting the best information when two or more source records contain the same data item but with different values present. **Automation of consolidation** is the process of selecting information from multiple source records without having a person manually consolidate.

12-month high level goal

1) Select data elements

Type of Reporting Source (500)
Dx Confirmation (490)

2) Develop process steps

- A. Identify any coding instructions applicable to consolidating the data item. Refer to SEER Coding Manual and other references.
- B. Identify all data items that may be used in the manual decision-making process for each data item.
- C. Develop logic rules that would identify the record with the best data value for
- D. the consolidated (CTC) record for each data item.
- E. Design a test to determine how well the new logic rules identified the same data value as that stored in the SEER CTC – which was manually consolidated (e.g., match values in CTCs to values in source records).
- F. Use existing data in SEER*DMS databases to validate the testing protocol.

3) Conduct Test

A. Develop a testing plan

B. Apply logic developed in 2B across SEER*DMS databases. Exclude cases that were consolidated in a legacy system.

C. Create a file containing one record per CTC. Each record in the file will contain the values of the fields using the auto-consolidation rules and the current values in the CTC. Supporting data items may also be included in the file.

4) Analysis process

A. From comparison in 3C, review reasons for non-matched records

5) Make adjustments based on analysis

6) Re-test process

7) Start over with Step 1 for each data element